

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11

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FM AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3138

INFO AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN

AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

AMEMBASSY NASSAU

AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

C O N F I D E N T I A L KINGSTON 6836

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, JM

SUBJECT: JAMAICAN WATERGATE CONTINUES; MANLEY RETURNS

1. SUMMARY: THE REVELATIONS OF CORRUPTION AND MISUSE OF POWER BY THE RULING PARTY (PNP) CONTINUE. THIS WEEK A SELF-STYLED "SPY" FOR THE

PNP TOLD ALL IN THE SUNDAY GLEANER, THOUGH HIS POORLY-WRITTEN PIECE HAS MANY INCONSISTENCIES. HE PURPORTS TO HAVE BEEN A PRIME INSTIGATOR OF THE STATE OF EMERGENCY DECLARED IN 1976, PUT UP TO IT BY

PRIME MINISTER MICHAEL MANLEY. MEANWHILE, MANLEY SURFACED BRIEFLY FROM HIS VACATION AND DIRECTED THAT ALL RELEVANT MATERIAL ON THE MILITARY INTELLIGENCE UNIT (MIU) SCANDAL BE COLLECTED FOR CONSIDERATION AT A CABINET MEETING. END SUMMARY.

2. THE AUGUST 27 SUNDAY GLEANER CARRIED A STATEMENT BY A MR. ALBERT ROBINSON HEADED, "I WAS THE PRIME MINISTER'S SPY." ROBINSON DETAILS A LURID AND DISJOINTED STORY ABOUT BEING ENLISTED BY THE PNP TO "JOIN UP WITH THE JLP (I.E. OPPOSITION JAMAICA LABOR PARTY) AND TRY TO FIND OUT THEIR SECRETS AND GIVE THEM FALSE

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INFORMATION." HE STATES THAT HE TOOK A TAPE RECORDING TO A "MR. HOLT AT THE AMERICAN EMBASSY, WHO I WAS TOLD WAS THE CHIEF CIA AGENT IN JAMAICA AT THE TIME." HE ALSO TOOK TAPES AND INFORMATION TO THE CANADIAN HIGH COMMISSION, BUT CANNOT REMEMBER THE NAME OF THE CANADIAN CONTACT. (COMMENT: HOLT WAS RSO AT THE TIME.

3. ROBINSON THEN DETAILS AN ACCOUNT OF A MEETING WITH POSITION

LEADER SEAGA IN OCHO RIOS, ARRANGED BY ASSISTANT POLICE COMMISSIONER GRIFFITS, MIU HEAD CAPTAIN CARL MARSH, AND THEN PNP GENERAL SECRETARY DR. D. K. DUNCAN. THE STORY THEN RATHER VAGUELY PASSES OVER THE MEETING WITH SEAGA AND CONCENTRATES ON THE PERIOD OF "PROTECTIVE CUSTODY" SINCE IN UP PARK CAMP. ROBINSON STATES THAT MARSH BROUGHT HIM VARIOUS "STATEMENTS" TO SIGN, WHICH HE DID WILLINGLY, BUT HE REFUSED TO READ A STATEMENT ON TV FOR FEAR OF GETTING ASSASSINATED. HE LATER WAS MOVED TO A HOUSE IN ONE OF KINGSTON'S MOST EXCLUSIVE SUBURBS, WHERE HE HAS LIVED WITH ALL EXPENSES PAID FOR OVER A YEAR. ROBINSON ASSERTS THAT HE HAS TAPES OF WHAT MANY HIGH OFFICIALS SAID TO HIM, INCLUDING PM MANLEY, AND HE NOW WANTS TO TESTIFY BEFORE THE COMMISSIONER LOOKING INTO PUBLIC CORRUPTION,, CHIEF JUSTICE SMITH.

4. PRIME MINISTER MANLEY RETURNED FROM VACATION FRIDAY, AUGUST 25, A WEEK EARLIER THAN PLANNED, APPARENTLY IN RESPONSE TO THE GROWING LIST OF CHARGES OF GOVERNMENT MALFEASANCE (KINGSTON 661 AND PREVIOUS). ACCORDING TO A PRESS RELEASE, HE ASSEMBLED THE CABINET ON AUGUST 29 TO DISCUSS THE CHARGES AND PUBLIC ALLEGATIONS RELATING TO THE MIU, I.E. TORTURE, MURDER AND ILLEGAL DETENTION. HE WAS PROBABLY ALSO AWARE OF THE IMPENDING ROBINSON STATEMENT.

5. COMMENT: ROBINSON IS A SLEAZY, DISREPUTABLE MAN WITH A CRIMINAL RECORD. IT IS, HOWEVER, A FACT THAT HIS STATEMENTS WERE USED AS CONFIDENTIAL

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PARTIAL JUSTIFICATION FOR IMPOSITION OF THE STATE OF EMERGENCY IN 1976. ALSO, IF HE HAS BEEN LIVING IN A PLUSH GOVERNMENT HOUSE, ADDED TO THE FACT THAT HE IS STILL ALIVE, THE SUPPOSITION IS STRONG THAT HE DOES HAVE MATERIAL DAMAGING TO THE GOVERNMENT AND HAS THE MATERIAL IN A SAFE PLACE. WE ARE AWAITING WITH INTEREST MANLEY'S REACTION TO THIS LATEST REVELATION.
IRVING

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NNN

Message Attributes

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